1	2	3
5.	Delhi	1,55,345
6.	Gujarat	1,00,975
7.	Guwahati	23,994
8.	Himachal Pradesh	18,212
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	68,321
10.	Karnataka	1,30,044
11.	Kerala	1,28,765
12.	Madhya Pradesh	82,028
13.	Madras	3,01,191
14.	Orissa	37,223
15.	Patna	79,783
16.	Punjab & Haryana	1,13,807
17.	Rajasthan	1,06,790
18.	Sikkim	74

Non-appointment of Chief Justice from SC|ST communities

3189. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is not a single Chief Justice of any High Court belonging to the SC and ST community in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are some very Senior Judges belonging to the SC and ST communities in various High Courts of India eligible to be appointed as Chief Justices; if so, why they have not been elevated as Chief Justices; and

(c) what are the eligibility criteria for Chief Justice of High Courts, and whether SC/ST Judges fulfil that criteria, if not, why?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). Appointment of Chief Justice of a High Court is made in terms of Article 217 of the Constitution of India. A copy of the guidelines issued by the Government, in consultation with the Chief Justice of India, relating to appointment of Chief Justices of High Courts is given in the attached Statement, (*See* below). The information about Caste or Community is not asked for at the time of making appointment.

Statement

Pursuant to persistent demand from responsible bodies, the Government have after considering various aspects of the matter and after consulting the Chief Justice of India decided to about a policy of having Chief Justice of all High Courts from outside and to keep in view certain broad guidelines when implementing this policy. These guidelines are as follows—

(i) For purposes of elevations as Chief Justices the inter se seniority of puisne Judges will be reckoned on the basis of their seniority in their own High Courts and, subject to suitability they will be considered for appointment as Chief Justices in other

High Courts when their turn would normally have come for being considered for such appointment in their own High Courts.

(ii) A Chief Justice who has only one year or less to retire may not be transferred to another High Court.

(iii) A puisne Judge in a High Court who has one year or less to retire when his turn for being considered for elevation as Chief Justice arrives may, subject to suitability, be considered for appointment as Chief Justice in his own High Court if a vacancy is to occur in the office of the Chief Justice in that High Court during that period.

2. While implementing the aforesaid policy the appointments/transfers shall be made in accordance the provisions of Article 217 of Article 222 of the Constitution, as the case may be.

Problems faced by small entrepreneurship in their dealing with Registrar of Companies

3190. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to look into the problems faced by Small entrepreneurs in their dealings with Registrar of Companies in various States;

(b) whether it is a fact that small entrepreneurs have to spend money and time to fulfil cumbersome forms and formalities with Registrar of Companies;

(c) whether Ministry of Law Justice and Company Affairs has monitored the working of Registrar of Companies office in Hyderabad; and

(d) what changes are proposed to streamline the working of this office?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b). Private companies are exempt from several provisions of the Companies Act, 1956. The companies are required to file documents/ forms with the concerned Registrar of Companies on payment of prescribed fee as also additional fee for late filing of documents, if such documents are filed late. Government policy is to take necessary measures so as to ensure that the Registrars of Companies provide prompt and efficient service.

(c) and (d) The working of this office along with other offices is monitored periodically. The implementation of the computerisation programme and revised legal provisions, as proposed in the Companies Bill, 1993, would improve the working of this office.

Setting up of Power Project at Kulasekrapattinam

@3191. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the power project to be set up by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board and Sea Solar Power Inco (USA) for production of power at Kulasekrapttinam at Nellai district of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the capacity, cost of generation and the time by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The technical and financial risks in setting up large sized Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC) Power Plant, at the present stage of technology development, are much too high for the State Government of Tamil Nadu to invest in setting up such a capital intensive power plant. However, M|s Sea Solar Power of USA have shown interest in setting up a 100 MW OTEC Power Plant off Kulasekharapattinam in Tamil Nadu on a build, own and operate basis an estimated cost of US $ 250 million and sale of power to the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board.

A Memorandum of Understanding to this effect was signed between the Tamil Nadu Government and M/s Sea Solar

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@Previously unstarred Question No. 774 transferred from 1st March 1994.